



IYPF NEWS

OCTOBER 2003

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Welcome

Happy Birthday to us, Happy Birthday to us.... On the 4th of October, the IYPF turned 2 years old! As you can see in this edition, we have come along way since our founding in 2001. A huge vote of thanks to everyone who has helped support us in any manner since then!

Another vote of thanks also goes to Mrs Nane Annan for letting us use her pertinent remarks on Freshwater.

Due to a recent computer crash, a small number of IYPF Memberships submitted in August were lost. If you sent yours during this time and have not received a confirmation email and membership number, please resend your application.

Regards,
Tamara Price
Chief Communications Officer
tamaraprice@iypf.org

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What is the IYPF?

The International Young Professionals Foundation (IYPF) is a not-for-profit public company working in the fields of human rights, poverty eradication, environment and social capital, within the broad context of sustainability. It utilises and promotes the resources, skills and knowledge that Young Professionals can bring to this arena in order to create a better world for current and future generations.

The Foundation intends to be a premier avenue through which Young Professionals from all countries can promote and participate in projects that work towards a sustainable future for the world. We see the term 'young professionals' as inclusive of a wide variety of groups, but particularly those who are at the beginning of their careers.

Specifically, the objects of the Foundation outlined in its constitution are:

- To promote and encourage the work done by young professionals in effecting positive global change.
- To facilitate the implementation of projects developed by members to address the issues of concern in the global community, which are consistent with the objects of the company, including the raising of funds where necessary.
- To further the networks formed during the International Young Professionals Summit 2001 and provide an ongoing platform for organisation and convening of future events and Summits and projects.
- To promote recognition of, mobilise and enhance the capacity of Young Professionals internationally to provide leadership and take action on global issues
- To undertake research and advocacy in regards to issues identified by members as vital to the creation of a preferred global future.

Volunteer Conservation Professionals

-by-
Craig Turner

Coral Cay Conservation (CCC) is an international non-profit organisation that provides resources to help sustain livelihoods and alleviate poverty through the protection and sustainable use of tropical reef and rainforest resources.

At a time when global funds for conservation are stretched to the limit CCC has to some degree solved the problem by utilising a volunteer participatory scheme. The benefits are shared in many directions. The projects are funded and have a willing workforce all year round. Project partners and stakeholders benefit from the outputs of the work, and the volunteers obtain experience in many dimensions. CCC currently operates in Fiji, Honduras, Malaysia, Mexico and the Philippines.

Volunteers come from such a huge range of backgrounds, ages and nationalities, and is one of the reasons why expedition life is so rewarding.

For those who are looking for a greater challenge, CCC is always on the lookout for dedicated conservation professionals to work as volunteer staff in the field. Positions range from an expedition leader to project scientist. Requirements for these and other positions can be found on the CCC website.

Contacts:

www.coralcay.org
info@coralcay.org

New Staff

**Pawan Singh - India
Sustainable Livelihoods
Campaign Coordinator**

"I had always admired IYPF as an organization so I am very happy to be a part of the IYPF team. I have been studying the IYPF website and other organizational documents to learn more about the current activities and the future plans of the organization...and it's evident from all the material that I have studied that there are some very exciting times ahead... and I feel lucky to be a part of all of this!

To tell you more about myself, I am 27 and I live in New Delhi, India. I love to have long conversations (preferably over a drink), read, travel and make new friends. Currently, I work for my family business looking after marketing & sales and I also do some pro bono consulting work with local and international development organizations.

Prior to this, I was working in the non-profit sector based out of Washington DC. The concept of sustainable livelihoods, I feel, can be understood both as a goal and an approach. I once read somewhere that sustainable livelihoods are based on the belief that local struggles against poverty will lead us to development strategies that work...and that's precisely what I hope to learn from our conversations, as friends and colleagues from all parts of the globe share their experiences, thoughts and ideas.

Ideas Festival

In August, James Moody, IYPF President, spoke at the Ideas at the Powerhouse Festival in Brisbane, Australia. You can catch extracts from his speeches on 'The Eureka Moment' and others at www.ideasatthepowerhouse.com.au/04_news/highlights.htm

Internships with the IYPF

The IYPF is always looking for committed, enthusiastic interns to volunteer to work with the IYPF.

Throughout this newsletter are opportunities for you to be involved as an intern with various projects or events, either on the ground, or remotely, via email.

Undertaking a fixed term or ongoing internship with the IYPF is a fantastic way for you to learn new skills, meet great people, and assist us to benefit the world.

If you are interested in a specific internship highlighted through our newsletter, please contact the relevant person nominated, or if you are interested in joining our database of interns waiting for a project, please email Chilemwa Nkowane, IYPF Human Resources Officer, at chilemwankowane@iypf.org

The BIG DEAL

The 10th of October will see young professionals network the night away at the 10th BIG DEAL held in Brisbane, Australia. Based on the concept that if you give them food, drink and business cards, they will come - the BIG DEAL has been running twice a year since 1997.

Members of the IYPF will be able to meet other young professionals from fields such as accounting, nursing and ethical investing. The BIG DEAL provides a great model for bringing young professionals from all backgrounds together, forming networks and cross-disciplinary relationships.

More information can be found at <http://www.bigdeal.org.au/>

Annual General Meeting

With the IYPF's Annual General Meeting coming up in December, it's time for you all to start thinking about what role you would like to play in the Foundation's future.

We will soon be calling for nominees for the Board of Directors – three people, to serve two-year terms, from anywhere in the world.

The IYPF's annual report will also be released at the AGM, and we are calling for stories from our members to include in the report – biographies of fantastic young professionals, examples of the work you are doing in your communities and so on.

In order to nominate or vote at the AGM, or be profiles in the Annual report, you must be a fully-paid ordinary member of the IYPF. If you would like to confirm your membership status, or become an ordinary member (which provides you with owner-member status in the IYPF), please contact Tamara Price at tamaraprice@iypf.org

Campaigns

www.iypf.org/IYPF-campaigns.htm

Globalisation - Members have been discussing the latest WTO meeting, the pros and cons of a failure of the WTO to deliver the changes developing countries are demanding on agricultural subsidies, who really has the power, the benefit of multilateral institutions like the WTO and the UN, parallels between the Cancun meeting and the weakening of the UN through the Iraq process => join the discussion and express your views on what went down in Cancun and where the failure to implement pro-poor trade policies will take us in the next decade.

Freshwater - There is going to be a debate on the virtual water concept. It would be great if IYPF members could contribute!

www.worldwatercouncil.org/virtual_water.shtml

Africa - The African Regional Campaign have been busy introducing themselves, identifying issues and strategies to overcome them, and generally reconfirming their joint commitment to work together for the benefit of their much loved continent.

YES One Year Anniversary

The IYPF was pleased to note the one-year anniversary of the launch of the Youth Employment Summit's Decade Campaign of Action for Youth Employment on 7- 11 September 2003.

YES is a key strategic partner of the IYPF, and the IYPF, a member of the Global Alliance for Youth Employment, hosts the YES Country Network in Australia. The IYPF is a committed partner in the Decade Campaign of Action and takes the opportunity of the first anniversary to reassert its commitment to helping create opportunities for youth and young professionals to take leadership in generating meaningful and sustainable livelihoods for 500 million young people by 2012.

To quote the YES Insider (YES's regular newsletter, see www.yesweb.org/media_room/news_ltrs.html):

"Messages of congratulations and inspiration poured in from around the globe between 7- 11 September for the YES Campaign's first birthday. Mr. Carlos Magarinos, Director General of UNIDO, led a highly distinguished group of leaders who praised the leadership of YES, particularly the leadership of youth in the Country Networks who are creating change where it matters."

For more information on YES see www.yesweb.org/ For more on the YES Country Network in Australia see projects.yesweb.org/YES-Australia

New Members - www.iypf.org/membership.htm

We would like to welcome our newest members:

Andrew , Australia	Matt , Australia
Angua Amis , Uganda	Michelle , Australia
Ashish , India	Modestus Obinna , Nigeria
Daouda , Burkina Faso	Mohammad , Bangladesh
Emmanuel Antwi , Ghana	Nishal Kumar , Mauritius
Fredrick , Kenya	Nwachukwu , Nigeria
Giselle , France	Philip , Kenya
Jessica , Australia	Princess , Nigeria
Julie , Canada	Sarah-Jo , UK
Kanyi , Kenya	Shehu , Nigeria
Kellie , Australia	Sikana Andrew , Zambia
Kouassi , Côte d'Ivoire	Stefan , Australia
Lauren , Australia	Stella , Nigeria
Louise , Australia	Telina , Zambia
Lucia , Australia	Victor , Nigeria
Mary , Nigeria	Yanina Lariza , Peru

Projects

Interns Required

The Natural Edge Project

Here is a perfect opportunity to contribute to a world-class publication on sustainable development. The Natural Edge Project, an IYPF Endorsed Project, is calling for young professionals to contribute to research, database development and content review of the publication 'Natural Advantage of Nations.'

Three (3) interns are required for this phase of content development. Interns will be invited to perform literature reviews and to produce summaries of various topics to assist in the development of the manuscript and online database.

To be suitable for this role, you must have excellent English reading and comprehension skills, strong research skills and the ability to manage your own work. For successful applicants, Tertiary qualifications and work experience in a related field are highly desirable along with an understanding of sustainable development issues.

You will work from your own home, communicating remotely with the team from The Natural Edge Project in Adelaide, Australia. Internet and telephone access are essential. The internships are offered on a volunteer basis and will require eight (8) hours per week for four (4) weeks.

Sustainable Community Biogas Project

An individual with an interest in eco-friendly energy sources is needed to research Biogas projects globally to identify currently successful projects operating at community and family size, and in rural and urban areas. The individual would have to spend up to 5 hours a week and collect information about the success stories in their region, country, community, city, village or institute. Examples that have innovative approaches (e.g. where biogas is converted into electricity and used to irrigate land or used to run an industry to improve economic standards of the people) should be given priority.

The research should look into the issues of technology, approach adopted and special features including role of various stakeholders. The individual will have to spend time in libraries, browsing the internet and other suitable methods and can also provide information from their own experience in the community they live.

The information will be used to develop the operations model of a sustainable community biogas project in India.

Please contact nathanfabian@iypf.org if you are interested.

Peer Review

The Natural Advantage of Nations

Contribute to an internationally recognised publication on Sustainable Development prepared by your fellow young professionals. 'The Natural Advantage of Nations' is ready for peer review.

The publication is being developed and reviewed in 6 Sections each with a target of 60 pages together with additional material to produce a 400-page manuscript. A 60 page draft of Section 1 is NOW available online and the remaining 5 sections will be posted as 2/3 drafts over the coming weeks for comment. (Please submit comments by tracking changes to the word documents where possible, in an email or send mark ups to the below address.)

The final compilation of reviews and development of the manuscript is targeted for completion by the end of October 2003 to begin publication and meet the April launch by Hunter Lovins at ENVIRO '04, followed by a 2 week National Tour.

www.naturaledgeproject.net/BookFrameset.htm

Partners - International Youth Parliament

Globalisation report is now available on line at www.iyp.oxfam.org/campaign/youth-guide.asp

For those aged between 18 and 25, applications are now open for delegates to the International Youth Parliament 2004. You can download the application form at www.iyp.oxfam.org/news/iyp2004.asp

IYPS 2004

And the winner is ... KENYA!

The IYPF is excited to announce Kenya has been selected to host the next International Young Professionals Summit in December 2004.

Following a bidding process launched at the African Youth Parliament in May 2003, three outstanding bids were received from young professionals in Ghana, Zambia and Kenya.

A selection committee comprising IYPF staff, patrons and UN staff responsible for Africa reviewed the three bids and determined that Kenya would be the best option for hosting the important IYPF event.

Congratulations to Kenya and kudos to the bidding teams from Ghana and Zambia also for preparing their bids. The teams of young professionals from Kenya, Ghana and Zambia have committed themselves to working together to ensure the event is a success for the IYPF and for Africa.

The IYPF is now working alongside the host institution, the African Centre for Environmental Advocacy and Governance (CEAG Africa), and the local organising committee of Kenyan young professionals led by Philip Osano, to progress the convening of the event.

More details on the event will be announced in subsequent newsletters. It is expected that dates will be confirmed and an initial call for delegates will be issued early in 2004. For now we encourage you to think about attending and plan to be in Kenya in early December 2004!

If you are interested in getting involved and contributing to IYPS 2004, the IYPF, CEAG Africa and the Kenyan local organising committee are seeking:

- Kenyan young professionals to get involved locally
- African young professionals to contribute to the event through coordinating efforts in their own country
- Individuals or organisation representatives interested in contributing through an international organising committee
- Interns (see adjacent article in this newsletter)
- Partners and investors in the convening of the event

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, or have your own ideas on how you or your organisation might contribute to the IYPS 2004, please contact Eddy Orinda, International Events Team Leader, via eddyorinda@iypf.org.

IYPS 2004 Interns

As part of its internship program, the IYPF is offering young professionals the opportunity to further develop their skills in event development and organisation through contributing to the convening of the International Young Professionals Summit 2004.

The IYPS is the IYPF's major international conference and the 2004 event will be the first since the inaugural event in 2001.

The IYPF is looking for an enthusiastic young professional who can offer their time and skills for 4-6 hours a week until the end of 2003 to assist the International Events Team Leader, Eddy Orinda, with tasks relating to convening the IYPS 2004.

Tasks will include online research relating to event partners & agenda content; drafting letters; managing online discussions; and updating and reviewing event documentation. If you are interested in this role, please contact Chilemwa Nkowane, IYPF Human Resources Officer, at chilemwankowane@iypf.org.

Partners - Oz GREEN

Oz GREEN (Global Rivers Environmental Education Network, Australia), has recently received a great boost from the Vodafone Australia Foundation.

Vodafone Australia recently ran the 2004 World of Difference program, which offered four Australians the chance to work for their favourite charity for a year, with Vodafone paying their salary, providing travel and other expense budgets, and giving the winners new phones and other technologies.

Ben Taylor, a familiar name to many on the IYPF Oceania email list, was one of four winners, and will spend his year working with OzGREEN – an organisation dedicated to the care of the world's waters and finding pathways to ecologically sustainable living, and pioneers of the YouthLEAD program being implemented around Australia. Ben will work with young people and their communities to care for the rivers of the Murray-Darling basin in Australia and also in developing a youth leadership program in East Timor.

Feature Commentary

Excerpts from remarks given by **Mrs. Nane Annan**
at the
UN-Junior Chamber International Summit
United Nations, New York, 7 August 2003

Reprinted with permission

A drop of water – in one place clear and clean, the very essence of life; in another place across the world, clear, but contaminated bringing death and disease. No stop sign will warn a child to stay away from that water. And even if every drop was marked with a big red cross, or brown from mud and dirt, that child may have no choice.

More than one billion people still lack access to safe drinking water and 2.4 billion people lack adequate sanitation. As a direct result, about 6,000 children die every day from diarrhoeal diseases. The world's leaders have taken note. In one of the Millennium Development Goals, they promised to halve the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water by the year 2015, and a similar goal has been added for sanitation.

Water is also a women's issue, because it is women and girls who bear the brunt of the burden of lack of safe water and sanitation. They are the ones carrying the water and managing it in the household. They are the ones washing babies and infants, they are the ones caring for sick family members, and they are the ones most intimidated by the lack of water and sanitation.

Last year, my husband and I were on vacation in Ghana and we visited a water project in the north of the country, where only 40 percent of people have access to safe water. The women had fought hard to have piped water brought to their village, and we are not talking about an expensive, high-tech system. It was just one standpipe with a tap for the whole village to share, but the women told me how it had changed their lives. This is what they said:

"Of all the development activities that you see in this village, the first and most dear to us is the water project. Before this water project, we had to walk 12 kilometers to the nearest muddy pond for water. The muddy water made our children very sick. Some children and even babies we carried on our backs had guinea worm. Diarrhea was the most common illness and the cause of most deaths in our communities. Due to guinea worm infection of our husbands and sons, all were sick during farming seasons and that increased our workload, since we had to do farming and every other family activity alone. The water project has liberated us."

They told me how they were now able to grow a nursery and earn some income; how their children were no longer getting sick; and how their daughters could go to school instead of carting water all day long.

From there we continued to Mozambique and I visited a settlement on the outskirts of Maputo, the capital. This was a flood-prone area which had been defined by lack of latrines and poor drainage systems, as well as unsustainable access to safe drinking water. The young children especially had been vulnerable to frequent outbreaks of diarrhoeal diseases, including cholera. As in many other places, this meant that women and children had to take care of the sick and collect water, preventing the girls from attending school and pushing the community further into poverty.

But here something was happening. The community, with the help of the UN and NGOs, had built a water point and drainage ditches. I visited a woman with two children who had just installed a latrine, a simple concrete slab covering a pit, with two footsteps and a hole. Costing hardly anything, and with woven bamboo and metal sheeting around it for privacy, it was her own.

We know our anguish if we go without water or a toilet for a few hours. What if all we had was a railway line, a canal bank, the roadside, or a plastic bag? What about women who do not dare to relieve themselves until dark out of modesty and fear of assault? And what about girls who do not dare to go to school because of the absence of private, safe latrines? Sanitation is necessary to preserve human dignity and it is necessary for girls and women to feel safe.

After Mozambique, we went to Johannesburg for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. There, UNICEF and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council launched a campaign called WASH, which stands for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for all. As well as access to safe water and sanitation, hygiene education is a vital component. The WASH campaign proposes a hygiene code in which the most important recommendation is hand-washing – hand-washing with soap or even with ashes if no soap is available.

I am sure you have all heard the good old-fashioned dictums, "Wash your hands before you eat", and "wash your hands after you have been to the toilet". They become more than formal niceties when you realize that the simple act of washing hands with soap and water at key times could help reduce the death toll of children who die from diarrhoeal diseases. Frequent illnesses, especially diarrhoea and worm infections, are what undermine a child's normal growth, in particular in the early years when a child grows the fastest and is the most vulnerable. Disease takes away appetite, burns up calories in fever and in fighting infection, and drains away nutrients in vomiting. Millions of children become lethargic, malnourished and stunted. The plight of these children should force us to find ways of reaching out to every household with the urgent message of hygiene.

One of the centerpieces of the International Year of Freshwater was the World Water Forum held in Japan in March, attended by more than 24,000 participants from 182 countries. I had the great

pleasure of attending the launch of a 'WASH in Schools' campaign with young people who were attending a children's forum facilitated by UNICEF. The young people came from many parts of the world, and some of them were telling me how life without clean water or sanitation was a reality, either at home or in school. In the children's forum, they discussed what they could do, and they promised to establish action groups and networks, to educate themselves and adults on the importance of WASH issues. Young people can be great agents of change, taking the WASH messages out to their families and the larger community.

And being who you are, I am certain that you can come up with ideas to spread this message or work for its realization. I encourage all of you to be partners in the life-saving venture of promoting freshwater, sanitation and hygiene for all. The WASH campaign is about realizing these goals. As Carol Bellamy, UNICEF's Executive Director, said in Johannesburg: Is it too much to ask that every school has access to water and separate toilets or latrines for boys and girls?

SustainUS

www.sustainus.org

Symbiosis Recruitment

The IYPF's thanks go to our partners, SustainUS, for providing the networks that allowed us to publish Mrs Annan's article above.

Their online newsletter is *Symbiosis: Science, Engineering, and Technology for the Millennium Goals*. This newsletter, a youth partnership between SustainUS's Science and Technology Awareness Committee and the International Young Professionals Foundation, is a bimonthly newsletter that seeks to create awareness of the importance of science and technology in the world's race to reach the United Nations Millennium Goals.

Each issue focuses on a specific subject encompassed by the Millennium Goals and consists of articles submitted from experts in pertinent fields.

Past contributors have included Jeffrey Sachs, coordinator of the UN Millennium Project, Dato Lee Yee-Chong, co-Coordinator of the Science and Technology Task force within the Millennium Project (and IYPF Patron), and John Marburger, top science advisor to the President of the United States.

The April, July and September editions are available from www.iypf.org/news.htm

SustainUS are currently looking to expand their membership to develop connections and resources across the country and the world. They are looking for enthusiastic and independent youth to help with making contacts, coordinating production, and steering future plans for the newsletter.

If you think you are interested in helping out, are interested in receiving the newsletter regularly, or just want to find out more about Symbiosis and SustainUS please send us an email at symbiosis@sustainus.org. Let them know in what faculty you are interested in contributing and how they may best be in touch with you.

Almost Half of Small Businesses Owned by 25-44 Year Olds

In the world of capitalism, the entrepreneur is key. The entrepreneur brings together land, labour, and capital, produces a product or service - and takes the risk. Beatrice Garcia of the Miami Herald reports on the SBA study: www.nasvf.org/web/allpress.nsf/pages/7564

Youth Creating Digital Opportunities (YCDO) Coalition

www.ycdo.net

The IYPF has recently become a partner in the YCDO coalition.

YCDO Vision: Realizing the potential of young people as leaders in using information and communications technologies (ICTs) to achieve more sustainable development in their communities and around the world.

YCDO Mission: Improve the international coordination and harmonization of efforts to:

- Ensure the meaningful participation of young people in ICT for development policy-making at the national, regional, and international levels
- Support the involvement of young people in ICT for development projects
- Promote continuous learning through facilitating the emergence of a global community of young people working on ICT for development policy and practice

THE IYPF CONTRIBUTION TO THE YCDO COALITION

By Cameron Neil, IYPF CEO

While the IYPF started pretty broadly, we are very quickly moving to develop some niche areas and products that contribute to creating a better world for current and future generations.

In particular, the IYPF is developing a focus around taking good ideas (and assisting to generate them) for positive change developed by youth and young professionals and "incubating" and supporting them to become successful initiatives and even self-sustaining ventures or businesses.

A complimentary focus is to use the development of successful initiatives and businesses that create a better world to produce knowledge products on the how, what, when, where, why and make these available to the global community - so that models can be replicated, lessons learnt, etc.

So what do we want to contribute to the YCDO Coalition?

- ⇒ A focus on entrepreneurship and the development of business ventures within the ICT4D arena;
- ⇒ The creation and successful management of venture funds to support these ventures, including brokerage and running these funds themselves along business lines;
- ⇒ The creation of knowledge products and undertaking of research projects alongside venture development initiatives
- ⇒ The involvement of young professionals in mentoring projects, in project and business teams, and in the management of ICT4D venture development support processes

Following on from the above on our desired contribution to the YCDO Coalition, over the next two years some specific activities might include:

1. Using the IYPF's ICT Campaign (see projects.takingitglobal.org/ICT-Campaign) to generate a small number of project initiatives that can be supported through the venture development process, as well as generate a community that can support these initiatives to be developed

2. Getting a project up with the YCDO Coalition to provide venture development services to a handful of initiatives to test our models and approach + develop a knowledge product from a research project that happens alongside it
3. Link more young ICT professionals in to the IYPF's ICT Campaign and the YCDO community that strengthens our pool of expertise, contacts, links to ICT companies, etc.
4. Embedding ICT4D entrepreneurship in to the IYPF's planned events, e.g. Asian Regional Young Professionals Summit, International Young Professionals Summit 2004

World Summit on Information Society - Resources

The WSIS Youth Caucus September Newsletter, created by TakingITGlobal, is located at groups.takingitglobal.org/wsisyouth/docs. It has a full PrepCom 3 review, pictures and an agenda of Youth Caucus events at the Summit

The Ghana National Campaign has had a great number of achievements and quite prominent publicity for their WSIS actions recently – check out the YCDO.net project page at ycdo.takingitglobal.org/policy/WSIS-Ghana

A report on the Youth Caucus activities at WSIS PrepCom 3 is located at groups.takingitglobal.org/wsisyouth/docs

Creating Common Wealth

On 10 November 2003, hundreds of young entrepreneurs from around Australia and Commonwealth nations will be arriving on Queensland's Sunshine Coast for the Creating Common Wealth Youth Enterprise Development Forum. The Forum is the centrepiece of the Youth for the Future initiative announced by the Prime Minister at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Coolumberr in March 2002.

The International Young Professionals Foundation has played a major role in the development of Creating Common Wealth through Cameron Neil's participation in the Forum's Steering Committee and working groups.

Creating Common Wealth is an opportunity for government, business, community and young people to come together to exchange ideas and develop plans of action for supporting young entrepreneurs from the Commonwealth of Nations to create better futures for themselves and their communities.

At the Forum there will also be representatives from government, business and the community sector who are keen to work together with young people to share their resources and knowledge and to be supportive.

The *Creating Common Wealth* program will include detailed discussion on how to:

- Further develop initiatives that support enterprise creation and youth entrepreneurship.
- Identify best practice and explore opportunities to build on and complement existing programs.

- Support the development of partnerships between business, government, community and young people in the promotion and creation of enterprises in every Commonwealth country.
- Encourage awareness of social responsibility and its application in the creation and development of enterprise.

Ideally, the Government would like to see two youth representatives and one each from government, business, and the community from all Commonwealth countries. The Australian Government will be funding one youth delegate from each Commonwealth nation to attend, but some countries may find it difficult to support additional members.

For further information visit www.thesource.gov.au/creating_common_wealth.

The Commonwealth Youth Credit Initiative (CYCI)
www.cypyouth.net/enterprise.htm

CYCI is a small enterprise scheme for young people: "micro-credit" (small-scale lending), training and enterprise development. Low-cost, easily accessible credit and training can bring economic self-sufficiency to the poorest young people. CYCI provides these services using the following methods:

- Low interest rates and training costs;
- Partnerships with NGOs;
- Use of young people to support each other, and to encourage saving and the paying back of loans;
- Ongoing training and monitoring of enterprises

The estimated success rate of businesses in the scheme is 80%, compared with a 10% for

normal businesses in poorer Commonwealth countries.

By March 2000, the Asia project gave over 1,000 loans, with a recovery rate of over 85%. Over 800 enterprises had been set up, and about half the people this helped were women. A big part of this success was the experience and expertise of the partner NGO, the International Centre for Career & Entrepreneurship Development, which ran training programmes and delivered loans to young people in urban, rural and tribal areas.

The experience of CYCI has contributed to greater interest in micro-credit and sustainable livelihoods for young people. The Guyana CYCI pilot was featured as a model of best practice in a 1999 BBC Television programme, "Hands On." Agencies as UNICEF, CIDA/IDRC and others have adopted CYP's approach.

The success of this model has proved that young people can be trusted with enterprise credit.

Micro-credit example: Daily Bread

Elizabeth Namwala, 29, is a mother living in Chipata Compound, a low-income housing estate in Lusaka, Zambia. Elizabeth used to sell 4-5 pans of bread a day. She received her first loan from the CYCI programme in April 1999. The money went towards buying stocks of ingredients. Now, Elizabeth sells 50 pans of bread daily. She repaid her first and second loans before the due date and is now repaying a third. Elizabeth has expanded her business and employs 5 young people. She has improved her house, and her living standards have risen.